

Minutes of Steering Committee No 43, Thursday 9th May 2024,

At The village Centre, Victoria Street, Englefield Green, 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Present: Mike Kelly (Chair), Terry Barnett, Alan Sloan, Fred West, Melanie Frobisher, Debi Hallett.

- 1) **Apologies for Absence;** Albert Jamieson, Erik Juul-Mortensen
- 2) **Approval of Minutes of Meeting No 42;** Approved
- 3) **Declaration of personal interest in topics to be discussed;** none.
- 4) **Amendments to constitution;** it was agreed not to alter the constitution other than to remove the clause requiring us to have two members on the EGVRA committee. Proposal to be put forward at AGM.
- 5) **Draft Code of Conduct;** Agreed to be reviewed after the AGM.
- 6) **Date of AGM;** Target date 18th July 7.30pm.
- 7) **Accounts;** We have no money. Mike to check with Locality that our account is closed. MFK to inform Marisa Heath that we have started a CIC in order to have a Bank account, and to request County Councillor funding.
- 8) **Setting up a CIC;** Fred has set up EG Community Projects CIC with himself, MFK, Terry and Alan as directors. This company will be the vehicle by which the Forum will receive grant funding and carry out projects. It will report to the Forum Steering Committee. Fred will set up a company bank account with Mike, Alan and Fred as signatories.
- 9) **Sourcing of Funds:** Alan has identified and scheduled out a number of Organisations that provide either Project funding or materials (eg Trees). Alan will continue this research, but also now provide relevant organisations with descriptions of our projects and find out if they are interested in contributing.
- 10) **Website, Facebook etc.** Melanie now has the membership list, and with a small amount of work should be able to send out e mails to members. Mike will do a 'round robin' e mail explaining why we have been 'off air' for so long. Melanie will set up a web site and give Mike editing rights. Mike will draft a single page 'starter ' for the web site, and may then if he has time start adding pages. A Facebook page will be started by Melanie, but this may be later due to the work she has to do preparing for the Fair.
- 11) **Projects arising from the Neighbourhood Plan**
 - a) Parking and Speed Limits; Alberts report is attached.
 - b) School Tree Planting. Article proposed for the EGVRA magazine. Melanie to consider other magazines?
 - c) New Trees project. Mike has produced a Scope of Works. Mike, Alan and Debi have held meetings with Alice and Danielle of 'The Englefield Green Team' and they have shown interest in progressing the 'Hedges and Trees' scheme along Bond Street and in the Forest Estate, starting in November with Bond Street.

Mike emphasised that there was actually not much time between now and November to prepare and asked that as much as possible is done now.

Debi will progress all the preliminary work such as establishing where we get the hedging from and liaising with those households that face onto the area and might be affected.

Alan will seek supply of materials and funding from the various grant funding organisations he has identified.

Mike will arrange a meeting with all councillors to get them on board, and also involve RBC to seek their approval.

- d) Forest Estate Garden Project. Mike has produced a Scope of Works and costing. Mike will arrange a meeting to get councillors backing, and undertake initial consultation with RBC under councillor direction. Mike will start going out for preliminary quotations.

Important is to establish a strong Gardening team to run the project once it is in place. A meeting was held with Linda of the Hub Gardening Club and she said she had enough on her plate with the Hub club. Danielle, who was at the meeting, said she thought she could organise such a group further down the line.

- e) Central Area remodelling and signage. Ditto (d)
- f) Refurbishment of Public Footpath in Bagshot Road (opposite Fletcher's Garage) running down to Blays Lane. No action for now.
- g) Village Shop Outreach- not a goer- no Windsor great Park interest.
- h) Mike will continue to liaise with Nick Day to see if WGP can help in any way on the projects. ND has already got a copy of the proposals and Mike will follow up on this. on this and how he might be able to help with the Projects.

12) Planning;

- a) **Fairmont Tree Houses-** coming up for consideration by the Planning Committee possibly in May or June? **Monitor!**
- b) **Birchlands-** Mike has written yet again to Marisa Heath. **Alan to continue to monitor**
- c) **Barbara Clark House-** Alan in discussion with the buyers who apparently still to conclude their purchase agreement with RBC. **Alan monitoring**
- d) **Others-** Terry noted the following;
 - (i) RU.24/0348 RHUL Demolition of the Orchard Building and return area to nature- no problem but wondered why?
 - (ii) RU.24/0584 Permission for 9 HMOs instead of 6 in same building- Alan subsequently investigated and it seems to be tidying up the paperwork, as 9 were already granted.
 - (iii) RU.23/1257. Huge house proposed on Ridgemean Road, and therefore doubtless a continuation of major traffic problems in the area. **Needs investigation?**
 - (iv) RU.24/0333- Juffali house on Bishopsgate- **needs investigation?**
 - (v) RU.24/0432- request for removal of restrictions on development rights- Mike has drafted an objection as it has implications for the Green Belt,

and will contact the Applicant, as he is also involved in the protests regarding the Light Show.

- (vi) RU.24/0424 Light Trail. Mike has written objecting on various grounds.
- (vii) Terry considered all other Applications to be reasonable or at most the concern of neighbours and therefore for EGVRA to consider.

13) AOB- none

14) Next Meeting- 13th June 2024, Possibly Mikes House or video.